FREE INDIA

35th Year Of Publication ★ September 15, 1974 ★ 20 Paise

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ON 16 SEP 1974

Fighting Economic Crimes

Governor Shah On Kamban

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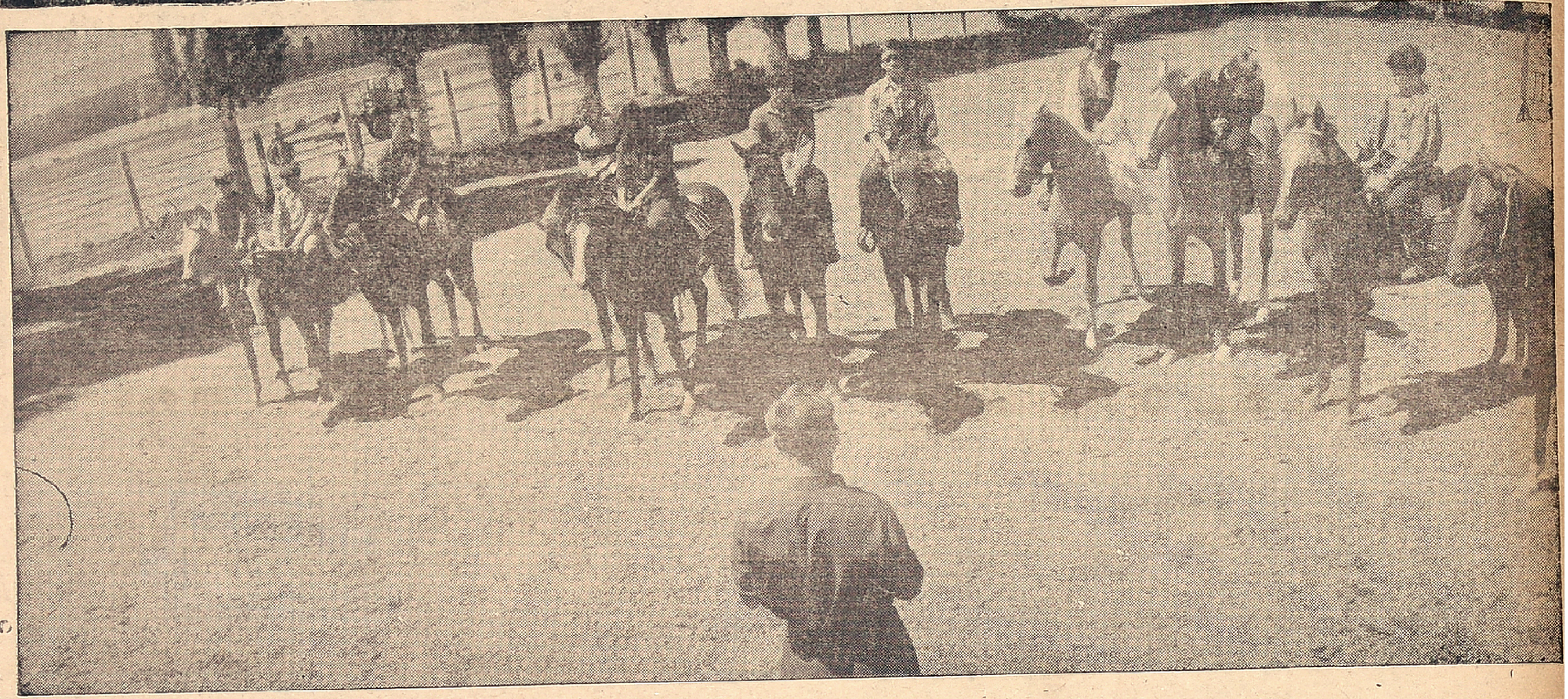
A Page Full Of Humour

Sports In Russia: Photo Feature

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR
1874—1974

(Birth centenary Homage: Special Article Inside)

SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY



A lesson in horsemanship in a Kirghir village sports school

SOVIET SPORT

The organisational structure of Soviet sport was developed in the course of many years. After the October Revolution of 1917, masses of workers and rural youth came into sport. During the quests and numerous experiments it was discovered that the most suitable form for uniting sports enthusiasts are physical culture circles at factories, offices, educational institutions, and later—at collective and state farms.

Every person working for a given plant, as also members of his family, can join the physical culture collective, or any section of it.

There are now more than 200,000 physical culture collectives in the USSR uniting approximately 50 million people.

The physical culture collectives are not uniform in size and scale. Some unite several dozen people, others several hundreds and still others several thousands. There are, as a rule, three or four sections in the most popular sports in small collectives. The bigger ones, just like the "Torpedo" at the Likhachov Auto Plant in Moscaw or Uralmash (the Ural Heavy Engineering Plant) have sections in all the Olympic sports events.

There is a Committee for Physical Culture and Sport under the USSR Council of Ministers. The range of the Committee's tasks is multifarious and broad. The main task is the creation and implementation of a scientific system for the physical education of the population and the training of the best sportsmen, drawing people of all walks of life and ages into taking up physical culture and sports.

Today each of the 15 Soviet republics has its own sports society for rural sportsmen.

In recent years sports construction was taken up on a large scale in the Soviet countryside. Most of the rural physical culture collectives (and there are almost 65,000 of them) have their own sports facilities. The sportsmen of the Soviet countryside have 765 stadiums, each with seats for 1,500 and more, 50,000 football fields, almost 6,000 ice hockey arenas, 200 swimming pools, 50,000 ski bases, etc.

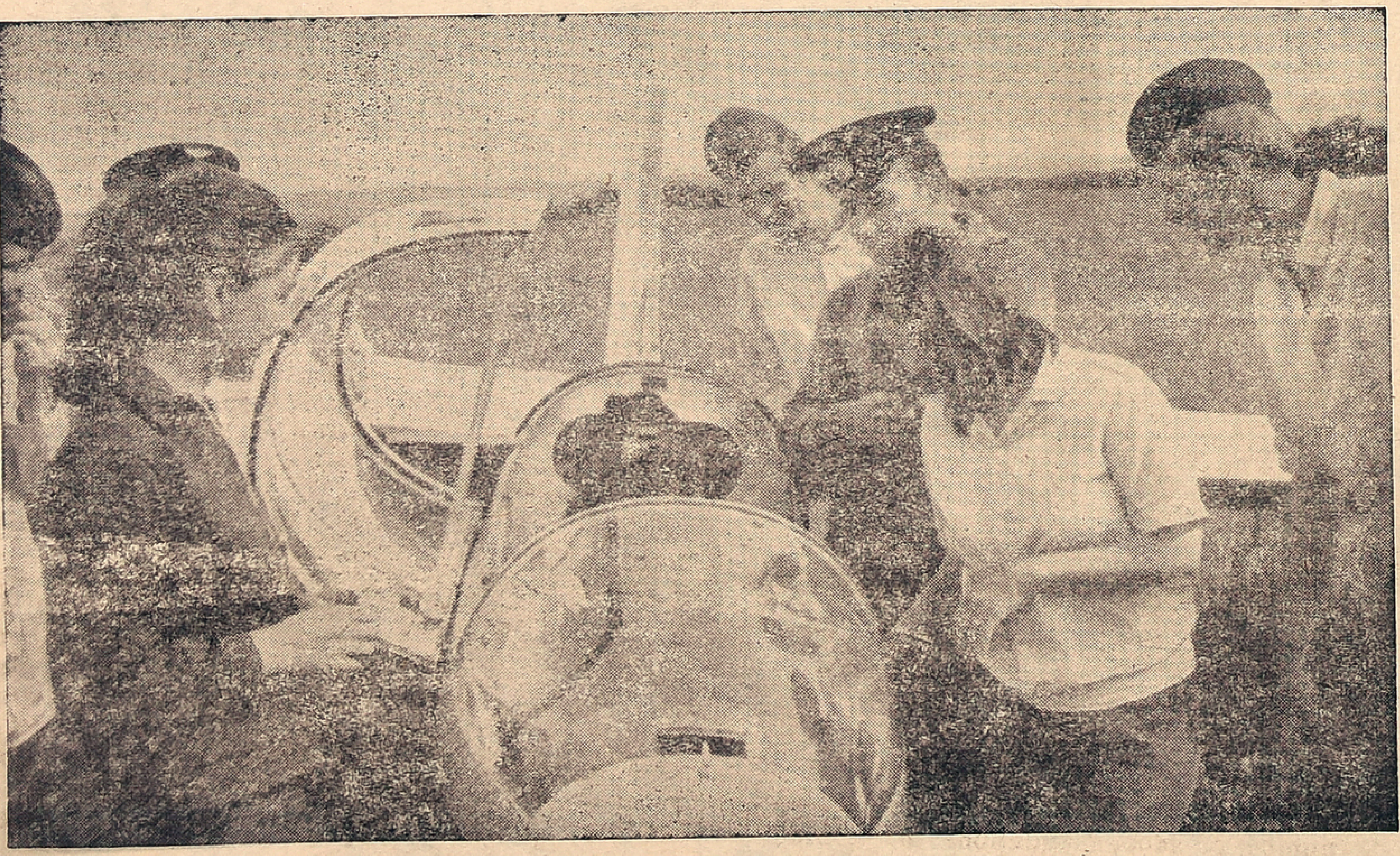
In the USSR, however, neither the renowned champion, nor a novice in "a millionaire's sport" has to worry about where to get such big sums for expensive gear.

Who, then, foots the bill? Let us take, for instance, aviation sport where the most expensive facilities are required. There are flying clubs in all the republics and regional centres of the USSR. All the money on the purchase of technical equipment and gear is paid by the Central Committee of the Society for Assistance to the Army, Air Force and Navy (DOCAAF), which promotes technical sports events. Usually a regional club has two or three aviation sections: plane, glider and sky-diving. On completing the first year's study, the club's members get sports rating in flying, gliding or sky-diving. Then the training programme becomes more difficult, and in the third year of training he is allowed to take part in contests. The social composition of those taking up aviation sport is extremely diverse, because the clubs accept all applicants above eighteen—good health is the only condition.

The monthly wear and tear of equipment and pay for instructors would cost every member 150 roubles. But, actually all they pay is an entry fee of 30 kopeks and the same amount as annual fee. That is, the price of a pack of cigarettes.

Thus, as we can see, in the Soviet Union "a millionaire's sport" is available for the millions.

More pictures on third cover



The flying club of the iron-and-steel plant in Novokuznetsk

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35th YEAR OF PUBLICATION

Free India

Founder : E. R. GOVINDAN

Vol. XXXV | Madras, Sunday, Sept. 15, 1974 | No. 51

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New Laws Needed To Fight Economic Crimes

FOR many in rural India even an ordinary brick is a luxury. Yet some people have bricks of solid gold and that too weighing about 14 Kgs. and two feet long! That is what the income tax authorities found when they raided a money-lender's house in Bombay the other day. There are other ingenious methods which the blackmoney operators employ. Another businessman for example was found to have all domestic utensils made of gold or silver! Then there are smugglers with 100-acre estates and a countrywide network who live in castles which would defy the imagination of fiction writers

But tax evasion and smuggling are only some of the crimes. Their gamut range from hoarding and blackmarketing to trafficking in licences and permits and manipulation of foreign exchange regulations. These crimes embrace all sectors of economy and a vast number of people. Thus "black economy" appears to have become all pervasive with its own power structure, threatening the very basis and the objectives of the system.

NEW THREAT

Obviously, there are many reasons for the growth of this new threat. But one of the reasons which has not received the attention which it deserves is the inadequacy of the present legal system to fight the new menace.

Society develops faster than its institutions. The present legal system is concerned more with crimes against a person or property or acts prejudicial to law and order. Economic development is a recent phenomenon. And so are economic crimes. Because of this the Law Commission was asked to go into "the trial and punishment of social and economic offences."

In its 47th Report the Commission dealt exhaustively with this problem. The Commission came to the conclusion that economic crimes assume greater importance in a developing economy. "Just as in war", the Commission observed, "every inch of territory has to be defended, whatever the risk, so in an economic crisis or in a massive effort to build up a society with a sound and healthy social structure, the purity of every grain has to be protected and every dot of evil has to be wiped out".

THE NEW CRIMINALS

The Commission has made a number of recommendations to achieve this objective. It has sought a drastic revision of laws; suggested special courts for economic crimes; and, widening the ambit of preventive detention to bring in offences relating to smuggling.

But most of all it advocated deeper awareness of the magnitude of these crimes and tearing the mask of social respectability off the faces of this new class of criminals. Identifying the class which indulges in these crimes, the Commission said, "It is a peculiar feature of white collar crimes that most of them are committed by persons belonging to upper strata of society. Members of such classes, while they would not mind a sentence of fine, would certainly be deterred by threats of damage to their reputations."

The thrust of the Commission's Report covers three areas. Firstly, the economic crimes have assumed a magnitude posing a threat to our development. Secondly, laws relating to these crimes need revision to make punishment deterrent. Thirdly, the economic criminals must be exposed for what they are. The last point has also been emphasised by a study Team which examined leakage of Foreign Exchange. It said: "In the fight against fiscal and economic offences, it is not enough that the methods and machinery for detection of such offences should be improved and the punishment for proved cases made deterrent; it is also necessary that there is greater social awareness of the evils of such crimes, and as much social stigma attaches to them as to other crimes against society".

Do You Know?

Agricultural Universities

- At present there are 19 agricultural universities and 71 agricultural colleges functioning in the country.
- There are proposals for the establishment of two more agricultural universities in Uttar Pradesh and one in Jammu and Kashmir during the Fifth Plan period.
- During the years 1969-73, on an average 7,159 students were admitted every year to various agricultural colleges.
- The number of students to be admitted is decided by every institution on the basis of an assessment of the requirements of the State Government and the potential for non-Government bodies and self employment.
- Steps have been taken to promote greater opportunities for practical experience to agricultural graduates so that they can effectively contribute to increasing agricultural production.

Many Crimes Unreported In U. S. Cities

Crime in America's five largest cities is more than twice as high as police figures show, according to a new government study.

The survey disclosed a crime rate five times as high as police figures in Philadelphia, almost three times as high in Chicago, and Los Angeles, and slightly more than twice as high in New York.

Results of the study, conducted by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration and the Census Brueau, made public recently carry "a strong message of public apathy toward its criminal justice institutions bordering on contempt," said LEAA administrator Donald E. Santarelli.

"The crime survey results demonstrate that in an astounding number of instances Americans simply do not think it is worthwhile to report to public authorities that they have been the victims of criminal acts," he said.

The report is the second stemming from a $10-million-a-year project to measure the extent of crime with interviewing techniques developed by census takers. The earlier report suggested that crime is twice as high as reported in Atlanta, Baltimore, Cleveland, Newark, Dallas, St. Louis, Denver, and Portland, Ore.

In the latest study, about 150 interviewers questioned persons in about 25,000 households and 10,000 businesses in each of the five largest crities. The survey excluded the suburbs of those cities. It also excluded visitors and city workers who live elsewhere.

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

If I am to identify myself with the grief of the least in India, aye, if I have the power, the least in the world, let me identify myself with the sins of the little ones who are under my care. And so doing in all humility, I hope some day to see God-Truth-face to face.

ASOKA SCENTED BETELNUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Sept. 15, 1974.

LAWYER, PATRIOT PHILANTHROPIST

Among the top personalities in India of the last generation, Sriman S. Srinivasa Iyengar, whose birth centenary is being celebrated this week, occupies a unique position as a great advocate and patriot.

He certainly surpassed in erudition and advocacy his contemporaries at the bar. But success in his profession was merely a foundation for a political career, which in sweep of imagination and clarification of aims and objects gave full meaning to Tilak's claim for Poorna Swaraj.

As president of the Congress at Gauhati, Sri Srinivasa Iyengar made it clear that end of British rule in India must be followed by self-determination embracing the fulfilment of the country's hope and faith.

His aims have been fully realised because India is a secular republic and faith in national unity is nourished by achievements appreciated by all.

In a sense, Sri Srinivasa Iyengar was the last eminent lawyer to dominate politics in Tamil Nadu. He was not merely an uncommon man but a gentleman.

His large heart was manifest in large donations for popular causes and in this respect also he stands far above the level of politicians of our time.

Greatness Of Kamban

By K.K. SHAH, Governor Of Tamil Nadu.

I am grateful to you for inviting me to release the book (Kambar) Aayriam) published by the Thamizh Valarchi Mandarm containing one thousand verses from the Kambaramayanam. The editor of this work, Thiru Athithanar, is a great scholar who has spent almost a life-time in the study of Kamban. I very much appreciate the service he has rendered to the public by helping the Mandram in the publication of this work. He has given important and choice verses of Kamban in this collection of one thousand verses out of nearly twelve thousand verses of the entire Kambaramayana. Some of the verses are quite popular which lay down norms for personal and public life. This concise work will, I am sure, induce the young and the old to study in depth the entire Kambaramayanam.

Kamban is a prince among Thamizh poets and his Ramayana has been a source of inspiration to successive generations. The variations introduced by Kamban from Valmiki's version have enriched Ramayana and constitute a definite improvement. To Valmiki, Rama was a prince; but to Kamban, Rama is God. Kamban's vision and imaginative approach are superb. The love-scene between Rama and Sita before their wedding which we are missing in Valmiki's version, demonstrates Kamban's poetic skill. Kamban says-

"Eye caught Eye, in pairs,
and each the other devoured;
Their feelings brought to a standstill,
The Prince stood looking at the Princess,
And the Princess stood looking at the Prince." (36)

when Kamban says in Ayodhya Kanda that "matter which is descended from Ether, pervades the whole of the limit-disdaining expanse of Space", he refers to Shabda Brahman and to the high scientific development in the age of the Ramayana. This is also clear from the fact that Lanka was full of gold and supplied aeroplane to Rama to fly to Ayodhya.

Kamban's presentation of Kaikeyi has a beauty and refinement of its own. It is profound philosophy when Kamban, referring to Rama's exile, says that God hides Himself from the scriptures and goes out to dwell in the woods. This demonstrates that mere mastery of scriptures cannot reveal Reality to us but seclusion, contemplation and experience can. How ennobling the whole atmosphere becomes when Kamban describes the scene of Rama being escorted to forest:

"The chastity of Sita,
the manliness of his own virtue
And his younger brother and the bow
These were the protective armoury
That escorted this Earth-descended Grace,
As he launched out in the dark ness
of the night."

The new friendship of Guha and Vibhishana makes Rama propound the philosophy of brotherly love in such beautiful words as

"Hitherto we were brothers four,
And from now on, we are brothers five.
Is there any limit to brotherhood?
Love increases the number." (730)

The death of Vali at the hands of Rama is a very exciting and interesting episode in the Ramayana. Kamban presents the dialogue between Vali and Rama in a picturesque way. I am happy that all the important verses from Kamban narrating this dialogue are included in the book under release. Vali fell down and saw the name of Rama on the arrow. He derided Rama and presented a chain of forceful arguments:

"Thee son of him who threw away his life
For honour's sake and truth's; but should'st thou too
Have seen the light before the Saintly Bharat?
Thou punishest evil deeds; but do they cease
To be ill deeds when thou are thyself doer? (544)

Are all the good qualities given
To thee alone to bring eternal shame
Upon the name of Knight, and art thou wise,

I have heard it said! (545)
I fear thy mind has lost its balance, since
Thou didst from Jan'ka's swan-like daughter part,
Who was as life to thee and very soul! (546)

........Where's gone thy tenderness, O man?
And how have I offended thee? If thou
Should run thus after infamy, on whom
Should Glory shed her rays? (547)

And who can beat thy glory? For thou gavest
A kingdom to thy brother at Ayodh!
And here in the jungles wild, to balance that
Thou hast my kingdom on my brother here
As gift bestowed! (549)

Thou has now thyself shown, O Ram, that power
Can work its will, unjust or just secure:
But say, if thou art right in killing me,
Because thou couldst thy arrow aim unseen,
Canst thou at all the Rakshasas kind accuse
Of carrying off thy spouse by force or guile? (550)

When two in duel stand engaged, the just
Regard them both with equal eye: but if
A man is moved towards one and hid behind
A bush, does shoot the other down with sharp
And pointed arrows aiming at the heart,
Is it an act of Dharma?-or something else? (551)

Are not ashamed to show thy face as man
And warrior, who hast laid a trap for me,
And lying concealed behind a bush, has aimed
A mortal dart against my chest, when I
But came to meet a foe that challenged me? (552)

Thy conduct gives the lie to the learning which
They saw thou doest possess; thy deed has brought
Disgrace upon thy great forbears! Form Man!
Thou hast not killed Vali but has destroyed
The fence that shields the seedling Dharma from ill!(553)

O fie on thee! A foe has carried off
Thy spouse while on thy idle shoulder lies
That bow mocking the valour. Is't only good
In unfair fight concealed for shooting down
An unarmed foe?" (554)

Lakshmana answers by saying that when Sugriva sought protection from Rama, he promised to slay Sugriva's enemy and added:

"He feared that thou too, should he show his face

(Contd. on page 9)

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Birth Centenary Homage To S. Srinivasa Iyengar

The Builder Of Congress In Tamil Nadu

By A. T. KRISHNAMACHARI

Seshadri Iyengar was a leading citizen of Madura about a hundred years ago. He was President of Madurai Mahajana Sabha, Madurai College Committee and a Director of Madurai Hindu Permanent Fund. Whenever the governor visited Madurai he was given an interview. He also assisted the Provincial Congress Committee. He was a delegate to the 3rd Indian National Congress at Madras in 1887 under the presidency of Badruddin Tyabji. He was a landed proprietor and Member, Madurai District Board. He started life as pleader in the Amin Court at Pamban. He was pleader to the Pandarasannadhi of Ramanathapuram and later to the Zamindar of Sivaganga. He acted as guardian of the three minor sons of the Zamindar. He often met Eardley Norton and V. Bhashyam Iyengar in the cases of the Zamindar. He fought the case of Muthuramalinga, adopted son of Kattama Nachiar, widow of the last Raja and won it in the Privy Council. And the generous Raja gave him a sub-Zamin (group of villages) as reward and raised the commoner pleader into a Sub-Zamindar.

BORN RICH

To this aristocratic landlord-lawyer was born on 11th September 1874 by his second wife whom he married even when his first wife was alive but bore no child for a score of years, a bonny boy who was destined to scale new heights in law and legislature and cross swords with the high and mighty in the land.

True to his vow to the God of Seven Hills he christened the child Srinivasa Raghava, which was shortened to Cheema at home and Srinivasan at school.

The family had two palatial mansions, one at Ramanathapuram and another at Dhanappa-Mudali Agraharam in Madurai. Young Srinivasan went to School and passed all his examinations with distinction. He lost his mother at the age of 3 and his father married again a third wife who bore him a son later known as Venkatesa and went the way of the first two wives.

The two motherless sons were brought up by an aunt, widowed sister of Seshadri Iyengar, who lived to the ripe old age of 80 when his son became Advocate General.

After matriculation, Srinivasan joined the Madura College and passed F. A.

MARRIAGE

Srinivasan used to accompany his father on his professional visits to Madras and stay as guest of V. Bhashyam Iyengar whom he engaged to fight the Raja's cases in the High Court. He saw the High Court Vakil's daughter Ranganayaki who was fair and sprightly and vowed he would marry her and no other. The indulgent father agreed and the wedding of 16 years old Srinivasan with 6-year Ranganayaki was performed on a grand scale with great eclat in 1890. This was followed by Srinivasan's admission to the Presidency College where he took his degree in 1895 standing first class first in English and Economics carrying away the gold medal for each. He capped this academic achievement by passing his F. L. in 1896 and B. L. in 1897. Srinivasa Iyengar was enrolled as Advocate (High Court Vakil) in 1898 by Sir V Bhashyam Iyengar, later elevated to the Bench as Judge of the Madras High Court. And he switched over to the chambers of V. Krishnaswami Iyer, where he soon bloomed into a leader in his own right.

RS. 20,000 A MONTH

Srinivasa Iyengar and Ranganayaki set up family in Pelatope and their daughter Ambujammal (1899) and son Parthasarathy (1901) were born there. In 1904 the family moved to the bigger house of V. Bhashyam Iyengar in North Mada Street of Mylapore. When Sir V. Bhashyam Iyengar died in 1907 Srinivasa Iyengar became the acknowledged rising star in the legal firmament of Madras Presidency. He faught for Kannivadi Zamin, Venkatagiri Zamin, Dumraon Raja (Patna), Parlakimedi. Chinnakimedi, Pandarasannadhis and Nattukkottai Chettiars and his income rose to 20,000 a month. In 1911 he bought the 75 grounds Amzad Bagh and moved in.

In the next year he was elected Secretary of the Advocates' Association. He had already in 1909 read a paper on "Law Reform and Law" before the Association. He was Secretary to the Reception Committee of the 29th Indian National Congress and in 1914 Gandhiji stayed in Amzad Bagh during his maiden visit with Kasturba.

SPECIAL TO MADURAI

The British Government appointed him Advocate General and he became a member of the Legislative Council. Seshadri Iyengar passed away at Madurai. On receipt of the telegram Srinivasa Iyengar hired a special train from the S.I.R. to Madurai and reached there before sunset and cremated him on the same day according to orthodox rites. The following year Government bestowed on him the title of C. I. E. viz Companion of the Indian Empire. He gave advice to Government not to arrest but to intern Dr. Annie Besant at a Hill Station on the Nilgiris. In the case of what language a member should speak in the legislative council, he advised that he could not speak in Tamil if he knew English (B. V. Narasimha Iyer did) His interest in public affairs drew him to Congress. In 1918 he presided over the Social Conference at Conjeeveram and at Madurai stressed the Nadars' right to enter temples, and in 1919 at Coimbatore. He presided over the first Lawyers' Conference at Madras in 1920 and the Madras Presidency Postmen's Conference and the Provincial Congress at Tinnevelly.

SWARAJ PARTY

The Rowlatt Bill and the Jhalianwala Bagh incidents had stirred him deeply and he resigned on 17th February 1920 his advocate generalship and in the following year gave up the title of CIE. He was attracted to the triple boycott of Gandhiji and in 1921 he made a bonfire of his expensive foreign clothes made by Bond street tailors of London at the Thilak Ghat (Madras Beach) and swore to wear only handspun handwoven Khaddar henceforth. He pulled down the portraits of British King and Queen and foreign dignitaries from the walls of his

(Contd. on page 7)

What Is Slip System

If a pilot 'slips' (flies) from one sector to another to the end of the route and returns in the same way, he is operating on the slip system. But if he operates in a single sector from an intermediate base where he is posted either permanently (3 years) or temporarily (3 months), he is working under the base or posting system.

For those familiar with the working of international airlines there is nothing novel about the slip system which has been introduced by Air India-U.K. route from August 1, 1974 and is proposed to be introduced on India-Japan route from November 1, 1974. It is followed by all the leading airlines of the world including Pan Am, TWA, British Airways, Alitalia, Air France, Swissair, KLM. Lufthansa, Japan Airlines and Qantas. It was also in vogue in Air India from time to time until 1966.

The posting system is more economical when the frequency of operations is low as is the case with Air India's Atlantic, India-Australia and India-Moscow services where it will continue to be in force. But when the frequencies are high as on U K. and Japan routes, the slip system is more advantageous.

To illustrate how the two systems work let us take the India-U.K. route. Under the base pattern the crew based in Bombay used to fly upto Beirut or Kuwait and return to Bombay on subsequent flights. Air India had six sets of crew temporarily posted at Beirut to fly between Beirut and London and back to Beirut after availing of rest at London. The Airline had another five sets of crew temporarily based at London who operated from London to Kuwait and returned to London after availing of rest at Kuwait.

Under the slip pattern, the crew will fly from Bombay to Beirut and after a lay over at Beirut for nearly 25 hours take a subsequent flight to London. On the termination of the flight in London the crew will lay over for over 47 hours and then return to Beirut from where he will fly to Bombay after a lay over for a little over 3 days. On return to the base in Bombay, the crew will be entitled to the minimum rest period of 4½ days to 5 days before he is scheduled on another flight.

The base pattern of operation required 19 sets of crew whereas under the slip system only 16 sets of crew are required resulting in a saving of 3 sets of crew.

Under the base pattern the average flying done by a pilot was only 45 hours in a whole month whereas under the slip pattern the airlines will get the utilisation of 55 hours in a month from a pilot. (Pilots in some international airlines put in up to 80 hours)

The slip system will not only increase the utilisation of crew each month and result in saving in crew but it will also yield substantial savings in foreign exchange of the order of Rs. 75 lakhs. The saving accrues from the abolition of temporary or permanent bases abroad and does not affect adversely the earnings of the crew members. Nor are the duty hours, flight hours and the rest period of pilots affected adversely under the slip system.

FUN AND LAUGHTER

DESIGN !

During a lull in the conversation at a dinner-party the hostess was unfortunate enough to emit a loud rasping hiccup. A Frenchman, sitting by her, immediately apologized profusely, as if he had committed the faux pas. When the ladies had left the diningroom, an American asked the Frenchman why he had acted in this manner.

"As monsieur knows, we are a chivalrous people," was the reply. "I saw that madam was embarrassed, so I tried to throw the blame on myself."

Presently the men joined the ladies upstairs. After a little while the American found himself in conversation with his hostess in the middle of a group of guests.

Suddenly the alarming incident was repeated—the hostess hiccuped again.

The American turned quickly to the assembled guests, and announced with an engaging smile, "Folks, this one is on me!"

PRAISE

McPherson started to build a small outhouse. He worked from the inside and, having the materials close at hand, the walls were rising fast when dinner-time arrived and with it his son Jock.

With honest pride in his eye, McPherson looked at Jock over the wall and asked: "Hoo d'ye think I'm getting on?"

"Famous, feythar, but hoo do ye get out? Ye've forgot the door."

One look showed McPherson that his son was right, but, looking kindly at him, he said: "Jock, you've got a grand head on ye! Ye'll be an architect yet, as sure as your father's a builder."

* * *

IN ANTICIPATION

A five-year-old was holding the fort until her mother should be ready to meet the guests. "The child's not very pretty," observed one of the guests, spelling the last word.

"Not very," said the five-year-old, "but awful smart."

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DAMN HARD !

Mrs. Jenkinns had missed Mrs Brady from her accustomed haunts and went in search of her. "They tell me you are working 'ard night and morning, Sarah Ann?"

"Yes," replied Mrs. Brady, "I'm under a bond to keep the peace for pullin' locks of hair out of that lazy husban' of mine, and the magistrate said if I came afore him again or lay me 'ands on the man he'd fine me forty shillings."

"And you are working hard to keep out of mischief?"

"I'm what? I'm working 'ard to save up the fine!"

* * *

WHAT AN OUTRAGE !

Two brothers had lived in a village near Aberdeen and had travelled to town on business every day by train. One of them died, and the other decided to take the body by train to the city. He sought the advice of the station master, and was told that he would have to procure a special ticket. 'A special ticket," he gasped in dismay. "What would I do tha' for? His season ticket hasn't expired yet."

* * *

BEST GIFT

Teacher: "Jimmy, is it true that your mother has diphtheria?"

Jimmy: "Yes ma'am."

"But don't you know you mustn't come to school? You might get it from your mother and then give it to the whole class."

"No, Ma'am; it's only my stepmother, an' she never gives me nothin'!"

* * *

NOT FOR SCOTTISH !

A Jew was bewailing the enormous cost of keeping his son at college. "Such expenses," he cried, "and the worst of all is the languages."

"Languages!" declared his friend. "How is that?"

"Well," said the agonised parent, presenting a statement "here is an item: Scotch £50."

* * *

SUGGESTION !

A young married man speaking to two friends said: "I believe there is something in suggestion. My wife was reading "The Heavenly Twins," and she has had twins."

The second agreed, and related that his wife had unfortunately been reading "The Three Musketeers" and had triplets.

The third man fainted. His wife was reading "The Birth of a Nation."

JUST A DOUBT

An English tourist was visiting Niagara Falls, and the guide was trying to impress him with its magnificence. "Grand," suggested the guide.

The visitor did not seem much impressed. "Millions of gallons a minute," explained the guide.

"How many in a day?" asked the tourist.

"Billions and billions," answered the guide.

The visitor looked across, and down and up as if guaging the flow. Then he turned away with a shrug, apparently unaffected. "Runs all night, too, I suppose," he remarked.

* * *

THE TROUBLE

"Why won't you advertise?" asked the representative of a newspaper of a man in a small way of business in a small town.

"Because I'm against advertising" the man answered.

"Why are you against it?"

"It don't leave a man no time," was the reply. "I advertised wunst last summer, and the consequence wuz I wuz so busy I didn't have no time to go fishing the whole season."

* * *

IN VAIN !

Sam had been carpenter at a provincial theatre for half-a-century, and the proprietors thought it was time he retired on a pension. Sam chose to consider himself insulted by the well-meant offer. "I wouldn't 'ave took the job at all," he grumbled 'if I 'adn't thought it was goin' to be permanent."

* * *

MEANING

At a dinner where William Collier, the humorist, was to make a speech, he listened patiently while a general and an admiral, who preceded him, each spoke for an hour. When Collier was introduced, he rose and said: "Now I know what they mean by the Army and Navy forever."

Then he sat down.

* * *

THE RUB

Filling out an application for dependant's aid a soldier answered 'no' to the question as to whether he had any dependants.

"You're married, aren't you?" an officer asked.

"Yes, sir," the soldier replied, "but she ain't dependable."

* * *

CONCRETE INSTANCE

Teacher: "Tom, what is the difference between vision and sight?"

Tom: "When our Ethel goes out in the evening, she's a vision when she gets up in the morning she's a sight."

LITTLE LAUGHS

Mrs. Ferguson: "It was a big come-down for me when I married you."

Mr. Ferguson: "Yes. every one said I took you down from the top shelf."

* * *

Judge: "You hit the plaintiff in the station waiting-room and then even went back and boxed his ears. Why did you do that?

Accused: "The train was late."

* * *

Lady (to hotel acquaintance): "A terrible thing happened. I've had a lot of clothes stolen."

Acquaintance: "By love, yes! Nearly all of 'em, what!"

* * *

Shopper: "It's so hard to find just what you want!'

Weary Saleswoman: "Yes; specially when you don't know what it is."

* * *

Agly: "I went to a wooden wedding last night."

Percy: "What's that?"

"Two Poles got married."

* * *

Boss: "Young man, you ought to take a lesson from the busy bee."

Office boy: "I did, sir! I was out late last night with my honey."

* * *

An Englishman went bald. He was desperate and spent much money on hair restorers.

A Scotchman went bald. He sold his brush and comb.

* * *

"My daughter's music lessons mean a fortune to me."

"How is that?"

"They enable me to buy the neighbours' houses at half price."

* * *

"Pa, what's dignity?"

"Dignity, my son, is what you think you possess until the boss says, 'What is the meaning of this?'"

* * *

"And if I refuse you, Cecil—will you commit suicide?"

"Well, that has been my usual custom"

* * *

"The leg you use must get very tired," remarked an onlooker to a potter working at his wheel.

"No, it's the leg that does nothing that gets tired," was the reply.

* * *

"Girl: "I don't think I'd like to go out with a perfect stranger."

Boy: "Gee, I'm not perfect."

* * *

Until one week, he received a pay packet of such thinness that he gasped: "What's this!" he roared. "That," said the proprietor, "is a basic salary."

* * *

"Bragson claims to have been born with a gold spoon in his mouth."

"If he was, I'll bet it had somebody else's intials on it."

* * *

"My wife is always pleased with the latest wrinkle."

"So is mine—provided it isn't on her own face."

From page 5

drawing room and replaced them by those of Tilak, Lajpat Rai, C.R. Das Motilal Nehru, Gokhale, Gandhiji and Sir S. Subrahmania Iyer, all tall patriots of the motherland. He joined the Congress and the Senate of the Madras University. He visited Vaikam with Gandhiji for the Satyagraha of Harijan entry into Caste Hindu streets. With C. R. Das and Nehru he founded the Swaraj party and successfully conducted elections to the Madras Corporation where he made his protege Sami Venkatachalam Chetty the President (Mayor) and to the Madras Legislative Assembly where he defeated the Justice Party entrenched in power and laid the foundations for a pure democracy.

CONGRESS PRESIDENT

He was elected to the Central Legislative Assembly at Delhi and became the Deputy leader while Motilal Nehru was the leader of Swarajya Party and Vithal Bhai Patel was elected President of the Assembly. To crown it all, Srinivasa Iyengar was elected by his countrymen to the highest office in their gift viz President of the Indian National Congress at Gauhati in 1926. A procession with 41 elephants representing the 41st session of Congress was cancelled by him as a mark of respect to Swami Shraddhanand who was assassinated at Delhi the previous day. He invited the next Congress to Madras and in 1927 he made a great success of it.

Dr. M. A. Ansari presided. While Gandhiji and Motilal were content with Dominion status, Srinivasa Iyengar with Subhash Chandra Bose tabled and passed a resolution making complete Independence the goal of Congress. He followed it up with the AICC at Allahabad resolve that there can be no true freedom unless the British connection were severed. He arranged a special train for the Madras contingent of delegates to the AICC at Allahabad at his own expense. Out of the surplus for the first time in Congress history of the annual session he bought land in the heart of the City and built a Congress House (behind present L. I. C.) He introduced the custom of of singing Bharati's songs at the beginning of public meetings and made it fashionable to speak only in the mother tongue at those meetings all over the country and gave an impetus to its renaissance. Hindu Muslim unity was his primary concern as communal riots were chief obstacles cited by imperialists against freedom. He got a formula on Music before mosques and cow-slaughter by Muslims approved by unity conferences called by him during his presidency. When the all white Simon Commission arrived at Madras he organised a boycott with great success and when Lord Birkenhead asked like jesting pilate if Indians could offer an alternative to the Simon Commission's Report and recommendations he produced his masterly book "A Swaraj Constitution for India" which is a monument of brevity and precision.

Two years of hectic life involving thousands of miles of long tours, hundreds of public meetings lasting till after midnight and gruelling work at the desk and press told on his usually robust health and doctors advised him a visit to Europe to recoup. He visited in 1928 Italy, Great Britain and Ireland. He was invited to Moscow and the Russian leader Stalin gave him an interview at the Kremlin. On his return he attended the Calcutta Congress where he disagreed with the high command. At a lecture he delivered at Kumbakonam he gave the slogan to link the Ganges with the Cauvery for irrigation. His disagreement with the high command erupted again at the Lahore Session and he left the Congress altogether. He refrained from public activities between 1930 and 1935. He was asked to revise the classical Text Book on Hindu Law by John D. Mayne in 1938. It was the tenth edition published by Higginbothams at Madras. Srinivasa Iyengar has suggested therein many changes in the Hindu Law of succession and woman's estate and many of them have been placed on the statute book in the form of a codified Hindu Law by our legislators after independence. On Nov.29, 1938 Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru declared him "the greatest jurist since Manu, the author of Smrithi."

On Aug. 9, 1939 Srinivasa Iyengar delivered a memorial lecture viz the Rt. Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri memorial lecture in the Madras university on Problems of Democracy in India which may now be assumed to be his last will and testament if not an impartial verdict on his contemporaries. Most of his assertions and assumptions expressed there have, since independence, been realized, recognized and remedied by our legislators at the centre and the states.

AWAY FROM POLITICS

The World War II threw a pall of gloom over our country as well.

There was little political activity. Most if not all of our leaders were in jail and those who were out were only able to attend to the constructive programme. Srinivasa Iyengar did not believe in jail going and he refused to toe the line of the high command which humiliated Subhash Chandra Bose. He openly decried the leaders and violently disagreed with Gandhiji. But off from the main stream of national politics, he was confined to his drawing room listening to the radio for news of the war fronts. He went to Kodaikanal Hills in April 1941 as usual for the Summer.

On 25th April he fell ill with fever and his only companion, his cook sent a telegram to his wife Ranganayaki whom he left at Amzad Bagh, unusually. She rushed to Kodai with daughter Ambujam and brought him to Madras where Dr. Guruswamy Mudaliar and Dr. Srinivasan attended on him. Best efforts of these two great practitioners of medicine proved of no avail. And on 19th May 1941 at 7 a m. Srinivasa Iyengar breathed his last with the words of the Bhagavad Gita on his lips: Mam Ekam Saranam Vraja. He must have attained the feet of the Lord as the Sri Vaishnavas say.

GREAT JURIST

Srinivasa Iyengar was born with a silver spoon in his mouth. To his innate genius inherited from his father, he added his prodigious industry. The result was incomparable and electrifying success. His own inclination was to go to England and compete for the I. C. S: or at least enter the Mysore Civil Service. But his far seeing father insisted he should take to law. There was no other lawyer in the country who excelled him. His views on what the law ought to be were far in advance of the times. The influence of juristic writings as a source of law cannot be underrated. The order of jurists represents in every community the maturity of thought as its legal needs and the judge as well as legislator have invariably drawn on them. While law continues to live in the common consciousness of the people, "the minute development and handling of it is the special calling of the order of jurists." Srinivasa Iyengar belonged to that order. He envisaged the Republican form of Federal government for India with no connections with the British empire. He discovered and groomed many juniors who later bloomed into Advocates General or judges and many patriotic volunteers whom he raised to provincial and ultimately All India Leadership. Such a Master comes but once in a millennium

New Method To Cure Squint-Eye

By PYOTR KURYSHEV, PHYSICIAN

A new method of treating strabismus (squint-eye) has been developed at the Department of Children's Eye Protection, headed by Professor Eduard Avetisov of the Moscow Gelmgolts Research Institute of Eye Diseases. The State Committee for Lenin and State Prizes in Science and Technology, under the USSR Council of Ministers, has recommended this work for the 1974 State Prize.

When Professor Avetisov succeeded in returning normal vision, lost because of strabismus, to a 17-year-old patient, it was more than a sensation. So far, strabismus could be cured only in early childhood. This was an effective corroboration of the method of treatment developed by Prof Avetisov.

Strabismus is a disturbance of the central nervous system. When each of the pupils begins to "work" separately and independently, the movements are no longer synchronous and single binocular vision is thwarted. The picture does not project itself strictly on the centres of the retinae of the two eyes, the limbus luteus retinae, and begins to double. To correct the situation, an inhibitory impulse of the squinting eye is born in the cortex. The power of vision drops considerably. It leads to a wrong evaluation of the third dimension, space orientation and three-dimensional picture.

But the main thing is still ahead. Cortical inhibition blocks, first of all, the function of the limbus luteus retinae (the yellow spot) of the squinting eye. Then some neighbouring section of the retina takes upon itself the function of the optical centre. The vision becomes somewhat better, but the visual axis of the squinting eye appears to be displaced and "wrongly fixed".

PAVLOV's LAW

For many years opthalmologists have been trying to find ways and means to return visual axis in its normal position. How can one make the yellow spot, the natural visual centre, work again?

Having turned to classical studies in physiology, Eduard Avetisov decided to make use of the law discovered by the great Russian physiologist Ivan Pavlov—one inhibition in the cortex can be stopped by another one. If the inhibited yellow spot is exposed to a very strong irritant (very bright light, for example) the secondary defensive inhibition must erase the first one. The method of local blinding light irritation of the central favea of retina promised to be simple and universal.

A beam of light directed at the yellow spot is switched on three times for twenty-second periods with intervals of ten seconds between the periods. This is a one-time period of treatment. After several such periods the correctness of Professor Avetisov's idea was beyond doubt.

After the visual axis has returned to its normal position, the patient needs surgical intervention—the squinting pupil of the eye has to be put in its normal position.

An instrument developed by Prof: Avetsov and his associates can, with the help of special visual images, irritate simultaneously the retinae centres of both the eyes, thus instigating the work of the binocular zone of the cortex.

Americans Worry More About Pollution Than Slums

By BHASKERAN THOMAS

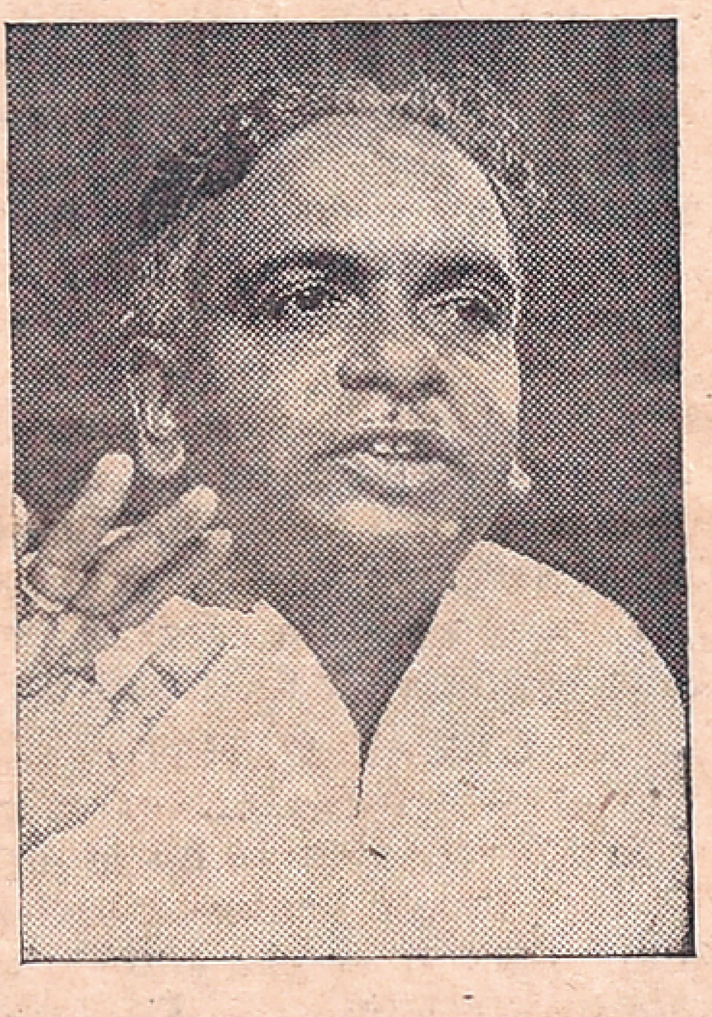
In New York and other crowded cities of the United States it is hard to find slums as Indians know them.

This is the experience of Mr. Rama Arangannal, Member of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly and Chairman of the Slum Clearance Board, who is now back in the city after a month-long stay in the U. S.

To the Americans, he says, dilapidated old buildings constitute the slums. These antiquated houses are owned by private individuals who are reluctant to hand them over to the government for demolition. America is a free country and the government cannot force the people to do something which they don't like. Hence there is a move to enact suitable laws to acquire such property and to replace them with modern tenements, he observes.

Mr. Arangannal, who visited the U. S. on an invitation from the American government, spent a major part of his time studying the housing system there in view of his interest in slum clearance and urban renewal. According to him the housing problem is not acute in the U. S. The government he notes, gives the best facilities to every citizen to construct houses or tenements, and the planning and maintenance of these constructions are excellent.

The Federal Government, he says, either constructs the tenements and allots them to the economically backward people for nominal rents or buys the land for various cooperative



Mr. Rama Arangannal

societies consisting of private citizens and helps them to build houses or apartments. There are also private housing companies to help the public to construct houses, he adds.

Since the American cities are becoming crowded, Mr. Arangannal says the present trend in the U. S. is construction of suburban cities and mobile homes The suburban cities, he notes, do not lack in any of the facilities available in the bigger ones. "The planning is most up-to-date and there are no problems of transportation, shopping, schooling etc.," he adds. He feels Tamil Nadu too can start this pattern of housing.

The greatest concern of Americans, Mr. Arangannal says, is pollution. In the steel city of Pittsburgh, he points out, there is a pollution measuring device to find out the content of air pollution caused by industrial emissions. "If the pollution level reaches unbearable limits," he says, "the industrial operations can be temporarily suspended till the air becomes cleaner. But such a situation has not arisen because of the precautions being adopted from time to time by industries to avoid pollution hazards.

Because of this pollution-consciousness, Mr. Arangannal observes, Americans attach great importance to maintenance of their apartments Each apartment has an office for maintenance to help the occupants keep the locality clean. The Slum Clearance Board Chairman is keen on setting up similar offices in Tamil Nadu

Mr. Arangannal held consultations with urban affair specialists at New York, Philadelphia and the University of California at Berkeley on planning and construction of tenements.

Mr Arangannal also attended a Congressional session and his presence there coincided with a discussion on economic assistance to India. He was able to listen to the various arguments on this subject, and having heard them feels that Americans like to help others. "No doubt," he adds, "some of them are not aware of our progress and think we're still poor. To such people we should provide more information about our country and we should take every effort to do it."

Magnetically Suspended Train Demonstrated

LONDON: A suspension system, developed at Sussex University by a team headed by an Indian, Dr. B. V. Jayawant, has given the promise of magnetically suspended trains for city centre traffic. Such trains will not only bring a new look but also silence.

A one-ton, four-passenger train has been demonstrated by the University team near Brighton (Southern England). It was propelled along a laboratory track by a linear motor, and had no moving parts.

The suspension system uses the force of attraction between an electromagnet attached to the train and a steel rail. The electromagnet is mounted under the rail and when it is supplied with direct current it is attracted to the rail. But the force of attraction is balanced so that the rail and magnet never touch. A sensor attached to the system detects variations in distance from the rail and varies the power supply to the magnet. The car is thus maintained at a constant distance from the rail and moves along it without friction or noise.

NO POLLUTION

The Sussex University train is claimed to be specially suitable for low-speed transport. Its complete freedom from wear and pollution and its silence make it attractive for city centre schemes, especially now that the motor car is being increasingly restricted in city centres. Its power requirements are low—about 30 kilowatts for a system running at 30 miles per hour.

Discussions are in progress on a magnetically suspended train system for Brighton.

PAPA

By I. GRINEV, M. KALER

I was a great dissappointment to my father when I was born. Unlike most fathers, he had wanted a girl. Until I was two, the only way I could make myself understood was with my hands—accelerated development had not yet been invented at that time—and I looked very much like the baby on the rickets poster, so, all things considered, I can sympathize with him.

I was so skinny at the time, that he used to call me a Visual aid for an anatomy class.

When I learned to talk (and I did, much to Papa's dismay), and ate heartily into the bargain, I was called "Belly-god".

"With your brains they'll chuck you out in the second form," Papa told me, when I started school.

But I was only "chucked out" after the tenth, and then with a gold medal!

"There's universal education for you", said Papa, sadly. "I wonder what the rest must be like, if you're the best! What are you going to do with that medal? Wear it on your chest as a number tag and become a porter?"

I got a place at the Institute.

"Fools always have good luck", said Papa when told.

After higher school, I was sent to work as a junior research assistant in a distant university town.

"Oh well, You've had it now, I expect," said Papa gloomily, when he said good-bye. "What did they go and send you there for, anyway?"

"For my knowledge".

"I always did say you wouldn't come to any good. If I were you, I'd find out if they need any porters there, before you go".

They needed physicists.

Soon I was defending my thesis, and Papa sent me a telegram.

"Surprised you manged to fool them stop. Don't give yourself away stop. Your loving Papa".

When I was transferred back home to take over as head of a new research centre, Papa was scathing:

"The return of the prodigal son", he said. "Well I s'pose they don't have to put up with you all the time as I do. I hope you've begun to earn some money, at least?"

"Enough to keep body and soul together", I responded modestly, presenting my father with a pair of gold cuff links.

"So, that's the kind of thing your pay goes on", he muttered, as he buttoned them into his cuffs.

That's how it went on. In spite of all his love for me, Papa just wouldn't believe that I lived normally, like everybody else, just quietly getting on with my work.

"You're a clever schemer", he'd say every time I won promotion.

When I was appointed head of the department where my father worked as an accountant, the staff told me how very proud my father had always been of me, all his life, and I just couldn't resist sending for him to my office.

"Well, with a manager like you, We're sure to fulfil the plan," he said, sarcastically. Closing the door carefully behind him, he went on: "Look, son, before they see through you, take my advice. They're badly in need of porters at the Kiev Station. If they took you on, you'd have permanent employment. And at least the job would fit you..."

I have just been elected to the Academy of Sciences, and I'm sitting in the conference hall, afraid to go home. What will Papa say?

Comments By Vishnu

Knowledge And Wisdom

Knowledge and wisdom far from being one
Ofttimes have no connection.
Knowledge, a rude unprofitable mass,
Dwells replete in heads filled with thoughts of other men,
Wisdom in minds attentive to their own;
'Til suared and smoothed and fitted to its place
Doth but encumber whom it seems to enrich.
Knowledge is proud that he knows so much;
Wisdom is humble that he knows no more.

—William Cowper

A Subject For Writing

A newly appointed reporter said to the sub-editor "I really dont know what to write about". The sub-editor said: "Why not do what the others are always doing? Write against me to the editor."

On Picking And Filling Pockets

A man who was once a leader bemoaned to his friends: "When I was in power they called on me and filled my pockets. Now a days they still call on me but unless I am careful they try to pick it."

A Hold-up At Gun-Point

An armed bandit held up the occupants of an Ambassador car on a lonely road in the country-side. Pointing his gun at the man he said: "Your money or your life" The man who was a bit hard of hearing took the threat to be "Your money or your wife" readily agreed to surrender his better half and he said: "By all means, have her, youre welcome". Astonished at his reply the bandit ran his eyes over the lady in question and thought it was a good offer and accepted and led her away into the forest. There she lashed away at him with her tongue and shrew, that she was kept nagging him so much that he could endure it no longer. He decided to return her to her husband who by now had summoned the guardians of law and order who straightaway took him into custody and clapped him into a cell. The shrew shouted at her husband "So you'd rather give me up than your money?". Shrewd man that the husband was, he explained to her that by doing what he did he now had both money and wife". The avaricious wife as usual had the last word and said: 'You could have given him your life which would have left me with the money."

This drawing of Lord Ganesa is by Raki.

Shaw And The Shoeblack

A Budapest shoe-shiner apparently believing in the superiority of British shoe-polish wrote to the famous playwright George Bernard Shaw requesting him to procure some for him. The great man wrote on one of his famous postcards "I am proud to number among by disciples a shoeblack; and I should gladly buy you a supply of British polish if I knew how to set about it. But I am in my 94th year and cannot walk further than my garden. Ask some younger man".

What might have an Indian counterpart written had he been requested? If he had cared to reply at all, he might have written that since he was on the threshold of youth and aspiring for an award from the academi of letters he had little time to look into his request. And 94 is such a right age to fill a vice-chancellorship or occupy a gubernatorial post that most writers hanker after anyway as recognition of their talents.

Cartoonist "Raki".

Tamil cartoons signed "Raki" are the works of Sri S. Ramakrishnan. Raki's appearance and build belie the fact that he is in his fifties and he has been practising the cartoon art for quite some time. Displaying a flare for drawing even in his childhood it is not surprising that in due course he should have jointed the college of arts under Chowdhry in 1928. Several years ago he collaborated with another noted cartoonist Thanu (Please see Free India dated June 2, 1974) over the production of an animated film of Vasan's that was released with the picture Miss Malini.

Raki drew for Sakti Karyalayam and for Arul and joined Kumudham when it was started Later he turned to free lance work both in film animation and titling so that it is not surprising that Cho Ramaswamy, renowned editor of satire magazine Tuglak, took him to draw for his publication.

Raki admires Sri Kamaraj. Raki's cartoons show a political tilt. Raki sticks to political cartoons believing that social cartoons are far more difficult to draw since they need a vast background of experience and general knowledge. In technique he generally pencils his drawings which he subsequently inks over with a brush.

Raki has a son who is fast following in his footsteps. He also has a little daughter. Unfortunately he lost his wife recently.

Though he himself is of a retiring disposition, his cartoons displayed at an exhibition in connection with the first All India Cartoonists' conference declared open by Mysore State Governor Shri Mohanlal Sukhadia, attracted much attention.

Modest, self-effacing but competent, Raki is a well known cartoonist of Tamil Nadu.

"En Mahan" Entertains

By M. A. SRINIVASAN

Coming on the heels of "Thangappadakkam", Sivaji Ganesan's "En Mahan" is another picture emphasising the rectitude, which every person in the Police Department should possess and exhibit. If in the earlier picture, it was a high Police officer who stood four-square against all odds and affections, in the present picture, it is a humble "Head" (Policeman), who proves a model for all guardians of law. For him, the highest ambition in life is to get promoted as a sub-Inspector and by his sterling loyalty and devotion to duty, he achieves this humble ambition.

The highlight of the picture is the double role played by Sivaji Ganesan, both as the strict father (Head Constable) and as his irrepressible son. The sequences in which both of them appear together are a treat to watch and incidentally demonstrate photographer Masthan's commendable craft.

There is not much of a story but a lot of illegal underground activities by a villainous gang. How the son gets involved in their nest and how he extricates himself form the story. But the question is, is so much of endless fighting necessary. A few sequences are sufficient to show the prowess of the hero, but too much of it tires the audience even if it does not the participants.

Balaji, Sundararajan, Manohar and V. S. Raghavan do their roles well, while the camedy part is provided by V. K. Ramaswami and Manorama, though not very effectively. Manjula has not much to do and is not impressive unlike her excellent acting in "Netru-Inru-Nalai".

To Kannadasan's songs Viswanathan has given music and one song in particular, namely, "Neengal Ithanaiperum Uthamargala" is pleasing and meaningful. The dialogues are by A. L. Narayanan. The picture produced by Sujatha Cine Arts and directed by C. V. Rajendran is entertaining.

From page 4

To thee, might haply wish
to save thyself
And fall a suppliant at his
feet and so
It is that he concealed him-
self to aim
His dart at thee." (555)

What an intelligent explanation for an indefensible act! Now Vali has nothing to say but to bow to Rama recognising him as the Lord of Heaven and Earth and requests him to excuse his faults. Wisdom dawns on him and he sees "the Three in Rama, all in Rama and Rama in all". He feels happy to have had an end by the dart of one whose name is the sole power to even Shiva. He sings the glory of Rama saying that all his sins are burnt away. He expresses his gratefulness to Sugriva by saying:

"Is there a better good that
brother can
To brother do? Sugriva has
brought thee here
To kill me with thy dart,
which straight does take
Me to the realms of Hea-
ven, leaving him
The tasteless, empty crown
of an earthly realm." (556)

These few quotations are enough to convince even a superficial reader that Kamban combines in himself the loftiness of a writer and the intelligence of a statesman. His variations provide absorbing and inspiring flashes of matchless imagination and unsurpassed emotion long after the reading, his matchless metaphor pierces deepest understanding and establishes permanent abode; his presentation opens up new vistas of understanding and his wisdom clears the cobwebs of ignorance and drives the substance home.

I congratulate the author for his deep understanding and masterly grasp and convey the thanks of devotees of Kamban. I hope the translation of this book in different languages will pave the way for Kamban being a household name in the whole of India.

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

POPULARITY OF KALIDASA IN THE SOVIET UNION

"Two copies please", said a girl at a book shop offering money.

"Only one; There's no more left," said the sales-girl. The book was sold out in half an hour.

The people standing behind the girl were unable to conceal their disappointment.

The last of the 25,000 copies of a collection of Kalidasa's plays and poems was just sold out in a Moscow bookshop.

As usual, the customers were varied. Some had waited for the book long since or hunted for it in bookshops. These were the ones for whom India is a profession or those who are keenly interested in its history, culture and present-day life. Others, who were not so familiar with India, read the first lines of the introduction and lift the counter with the book.

The edition may be described magnificent without exaggeration.

This is not the first time that Kalidasa's works are published in the Soviet Union. But the latest edition is more complete than the previous ones.

Of course "SAKUNTALA" is therefore well known not only to the Soviet reader, but to the spectators as well. It has been staged in Soviet theatre time and again. In 1914 it gave birth to the Chamber Music Theatre in Moscow, now known as the Pushkin Theatre. The SAKUNTHLA plot also forms the basis of a ballet which has for years been a great success with the public.

Prominent poet and translator S. Lipin first published a translation of MEGHADUTH, which is included in the latest collection also. All the other translations are new ones.

The well known Soviet literary critic Mr. B K. Zakharyin writes in the introduction that for Kalidasa like for all his contemporaries, the supreme goal was faith. But life on earth was not fettered by its chains. "Kalidasa's faith", he notes, "is an earthly one, full of passion, doubts, suffering and joy".

"He is just what he is, belonging to India and the entire mankind. His works—brilliant, boundless, as the pulsating Ocean of life which he glorifies, all are a reflection of him" concludes Mr. Zakharyin.

FALSE PRETEXTS TO CREATE TENSION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

Those who want to convert the Indian Ocean into an Ocean of tension are trying to find fantastic arguments in support of their motive, one of them being that the Soviet Union has bases in the Indian Ocean. This has been contradicted by the CIA itself. As the NEW YORK TIMES reported on August 3, the CIA Director described the Soviet military presence in the Indian Ocean as a relatively small one. In saying so he expressed the opinion that the final level of the Soviet forces in the Indian Ocean would depend on what forces the United States alloted for that area.

He gave his testimony in connection with the Pentagon's request for the appropriation of 29 million dollars for the expansion of port and artificial facilities in Diego Garcia island. According to the Pentagon's idea, the island is to become a major US naval base in the Indian Ocean. The point at issue is the construction there of major airfield capable of handling heavy jet planes, of fuel and ammunition depots, a naval harbour and military barracks.

The US top brass hope this will enable them, in particular, to increase over two fold the time of stay in the Indian Ocean of submarines usually based on the coastal areas of the USA, Spain or in Guam. They would like to complete the construction of the naval base in Diego Garcia Island by 1975.

The Pentagon's plans have, however, met with serious objections from the US Congress, and at the same time triggered off a wave of protests in the countries of the Indian Ocean. These plans create a real threat to peace and stability in that part of the world and constitute a breach of the well known UN resolution on turning the Indian Ocean into peace zone.

* * *

NUMBER OF ORDERS INCREASING..

Soviet newspapers have extensively published an interview given to TASS by Dr. Kundu who heads the Special Designing Office set up at India's Heavy Machine Building Plant (HMBP) in Ranchi.

Dr. Kundu informed that the Designing Office is now increasingly receiving orders from abroad, thus earning foreign exchange.

The Special Designing Office has received 147 orders for the design or development of machine tools and heavy equipment this year. The HMBP Designing Office is the only Centre in India that designs heavy equipment for various Indian enterprises. It has already to its credit 230 designs for a variety of machinery including powerful rolling mills. Machine-tools and heavy equipment are being built at the HMBP according to the designs of the Special Designing Office. About 300 highly skilled engineers and constructors, employed there, had undergone sound practical training at the Plant, built with friendly Soviet assistance. Many of them had been trained at Soviet enterprises.

This office helps in saving tens of millions of rupees annually by designing and building plants and equipment that are in demand.

Tit-Bits On Men And Matters

By T. NEELAKANTAN

(General Knowledge Agency)

HOW SHORT IS LIFE ON EARTH-HOW WELL SHOULD IT BE SPENT

In his voluminous speeches and writings, Swami Vivekananda had advised us as to how we should live our lives. He once said:– "This life is short, the vanities of the world are transient, but they alone live who live for others, the rest are more dead than alive".

The average age of man varies from time to time and from country to country. And so after discussion, some have come to the conclusion that the average age of Man could be taken as 70 years. Man spends this life span of 70 years in different ways like working, eating, sleeping and so on. An estimation has been prepared as to how much time he spends on each of these. It was calculated that he spends 26 years in sleeping, II years for working, 6 years for eating, 3 years for dressing and different number of years for different other purposes. As per this calculation, he spends II years in talking. II years for talking alone, is too much for his life span of 70 years. He should cut short his talking by abandoning his habits of gossiping, spreading rumours, speaking ill of others on personal prejudices and engaging himself on anti-social and anti-national talks. He should spend more time on work. As his life is short and as his waking hours are shorter still, he should devise ways and means to spend that period in an useful way not only for himself, but also for the society and the humanity at large.

BROTHERLY SACRIFICE IN A PRINCELY WAY

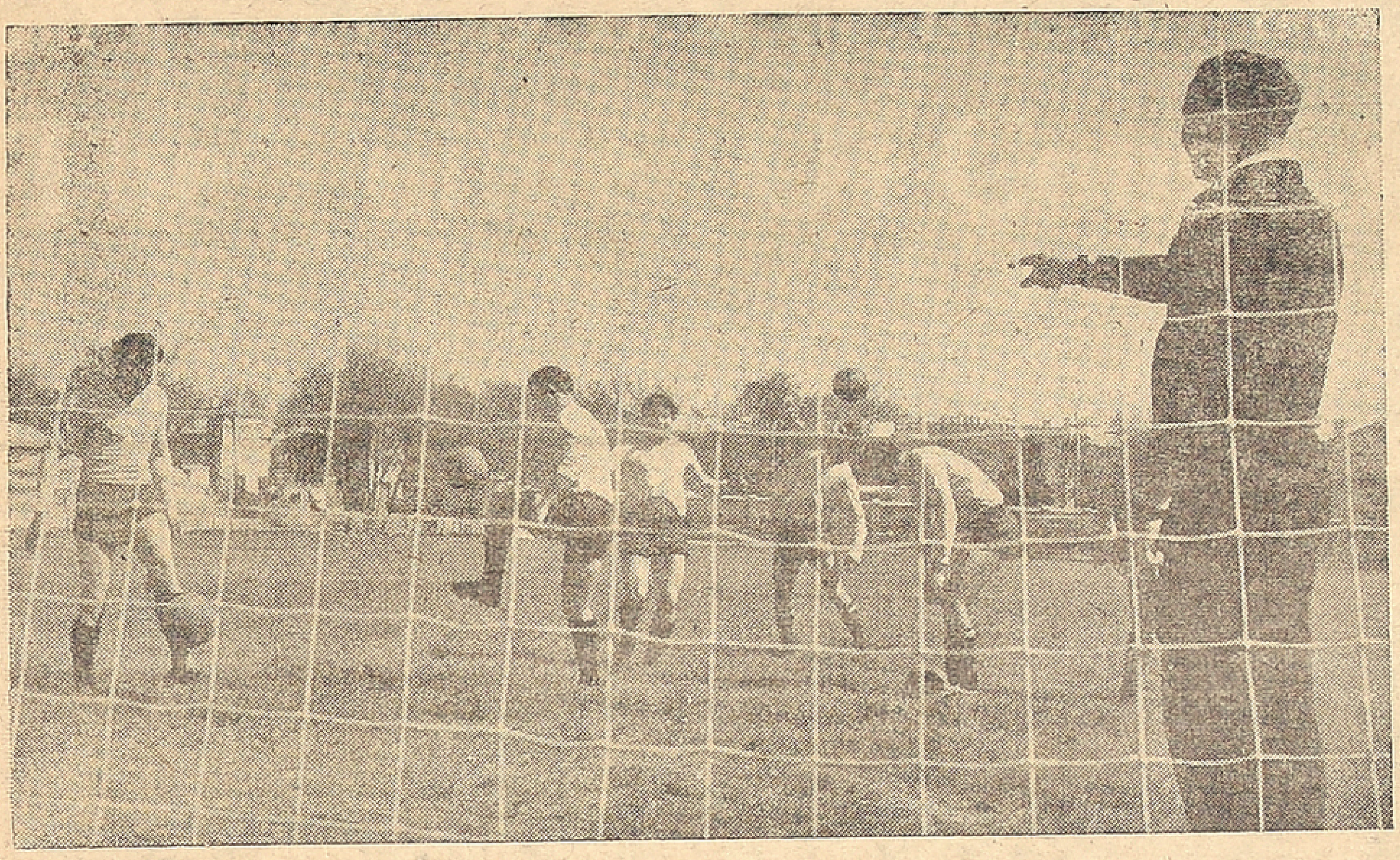
Before India became a Sovereign Democratic Republic, there were more than 550 princely States. Some States were big, some were small. A ruler of a small State had two sons. As his State would become smaller still on partition after his death, he advised his elder son to be the ruler in name and the younger son to be the ruler in action. The sons agreed to their father's advice. After the father's death, the two brothers functioned in their respective roles, with perfect understanding between them. But this arrangement was not to the advantage of the courtiers. So they played tricks to bring in disharmony between the brothers. Displeased with the intrigues of the courtiers, the two brothers decided that one of them should die and the other should rule the State. They planned that two identical pills, one poisoned and the other harmless, should be prepared, that they should pick up a pill and swallow, and that the elder brother should pick up the pill first and the younger thereafter. He who survived, should rule the State. Accordingly, the two brothers met on the appointed day. The younger brother was keen that he should die, so that his elder brother could rule the State. So, instead of allowing his elder brother to pick up the pill first as per their agreement, the younger quickly picked both the pills and swallowed them. He died and the elder brother ruled the State. But he ruled the State without any happiness or interest, as he was ever conscious of his younger brother's affection and sacrifice.

WHO IS A VERSATILE MAN?

A scholar once said that a versatile man is one who speaks with authority on Mice and Men; and Monuments and Mountains.

CONTROL YOUR TEMPER

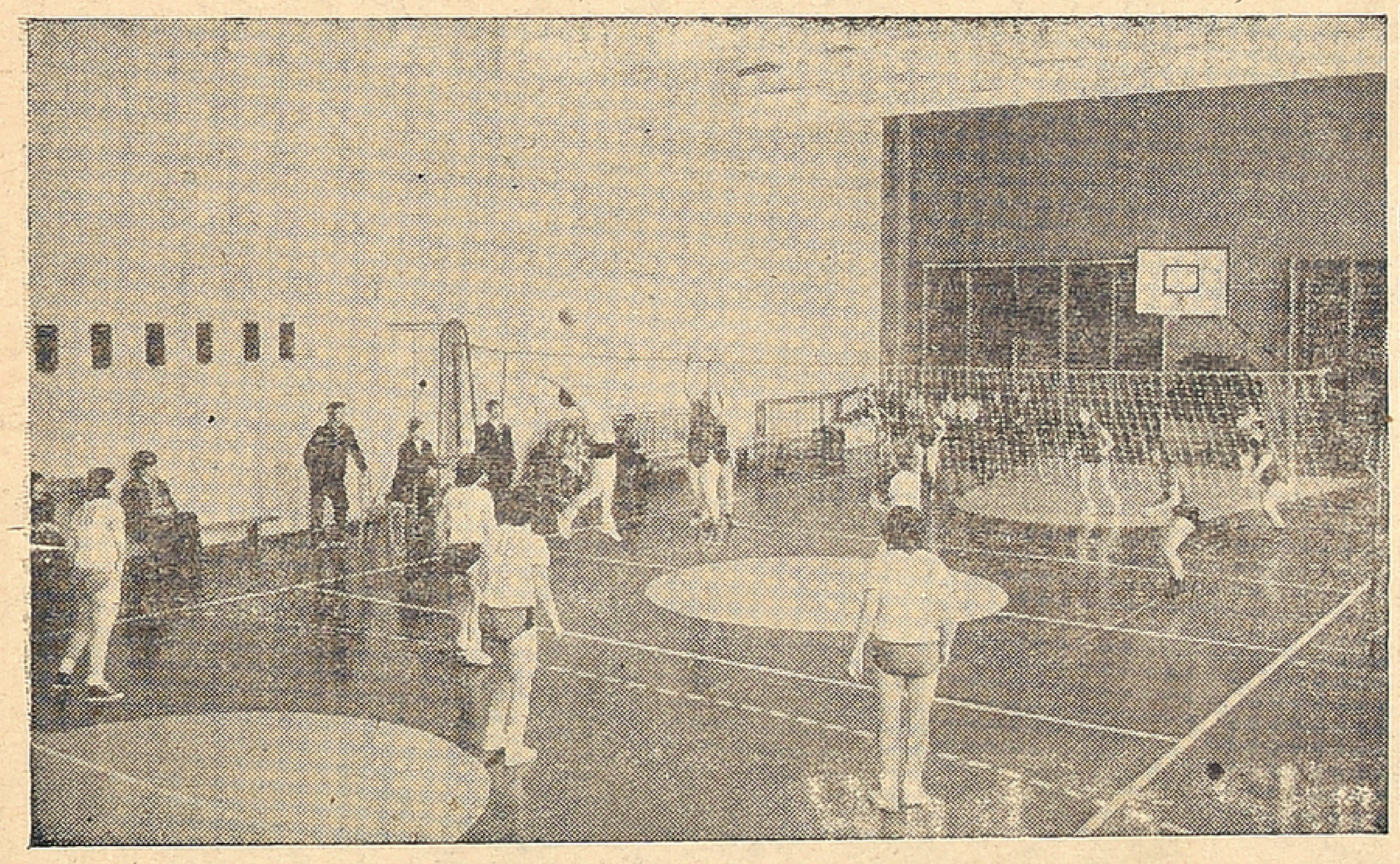
Patience is a priceless virtue. Laying stress on its importance, Mr. G. C. Lorimer once said:– "When you are in the right, you can afford to keep your temper, and when you are in the wrong, you cannot afford to lose it".



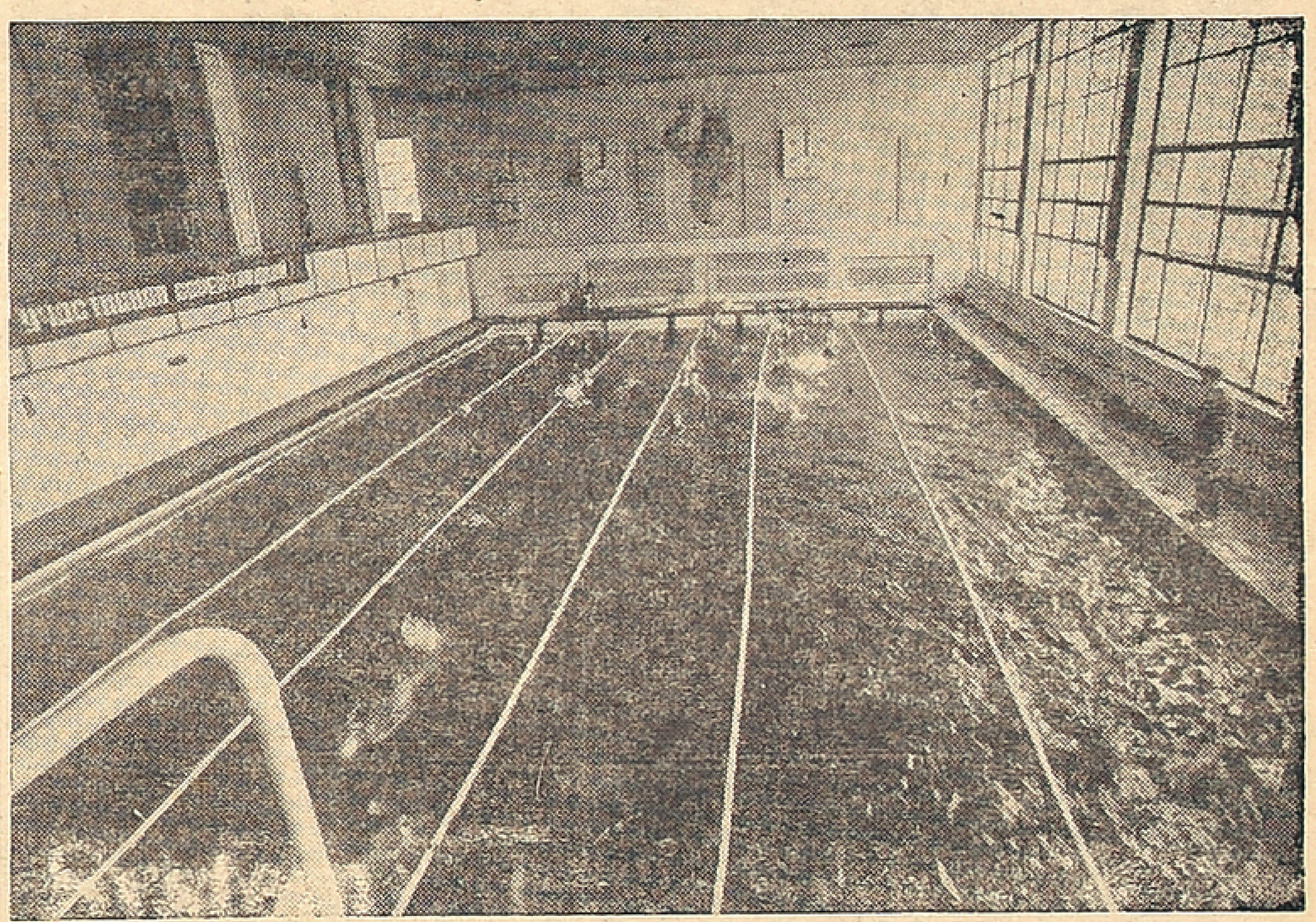
Mark Tunis, the coach of the Pakhtakor football team of the Karl Marx Collective Farm in the Vakhsh Valley (Tajikistan) Conducting a workout.

The Sports Palace in Minsk, capital of Byelorussia

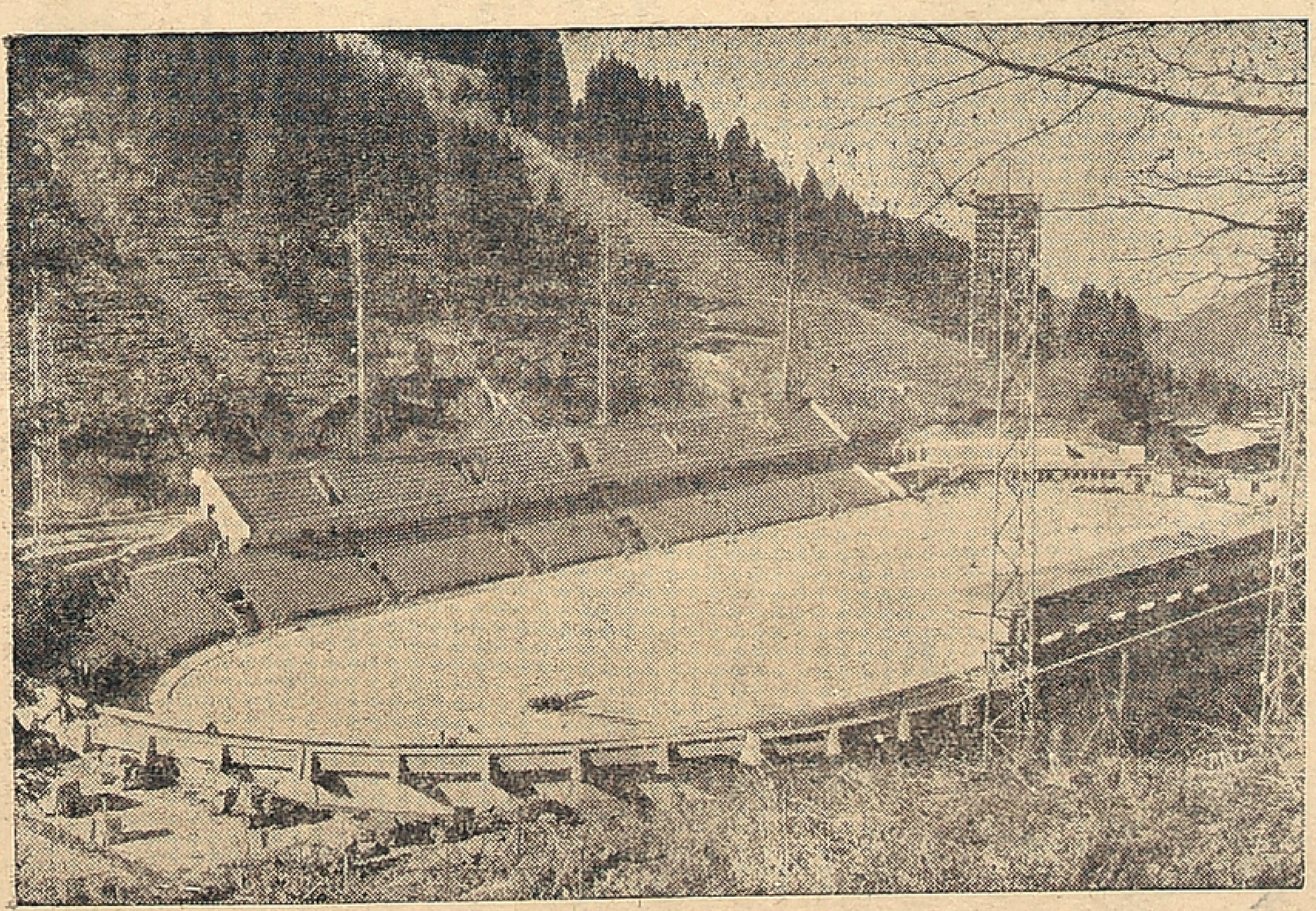
SOVIET SPORT



A contest of women's volleyball teams of the Ust–Ilimsk Hydro–electric Power Plant (Western Siberia)

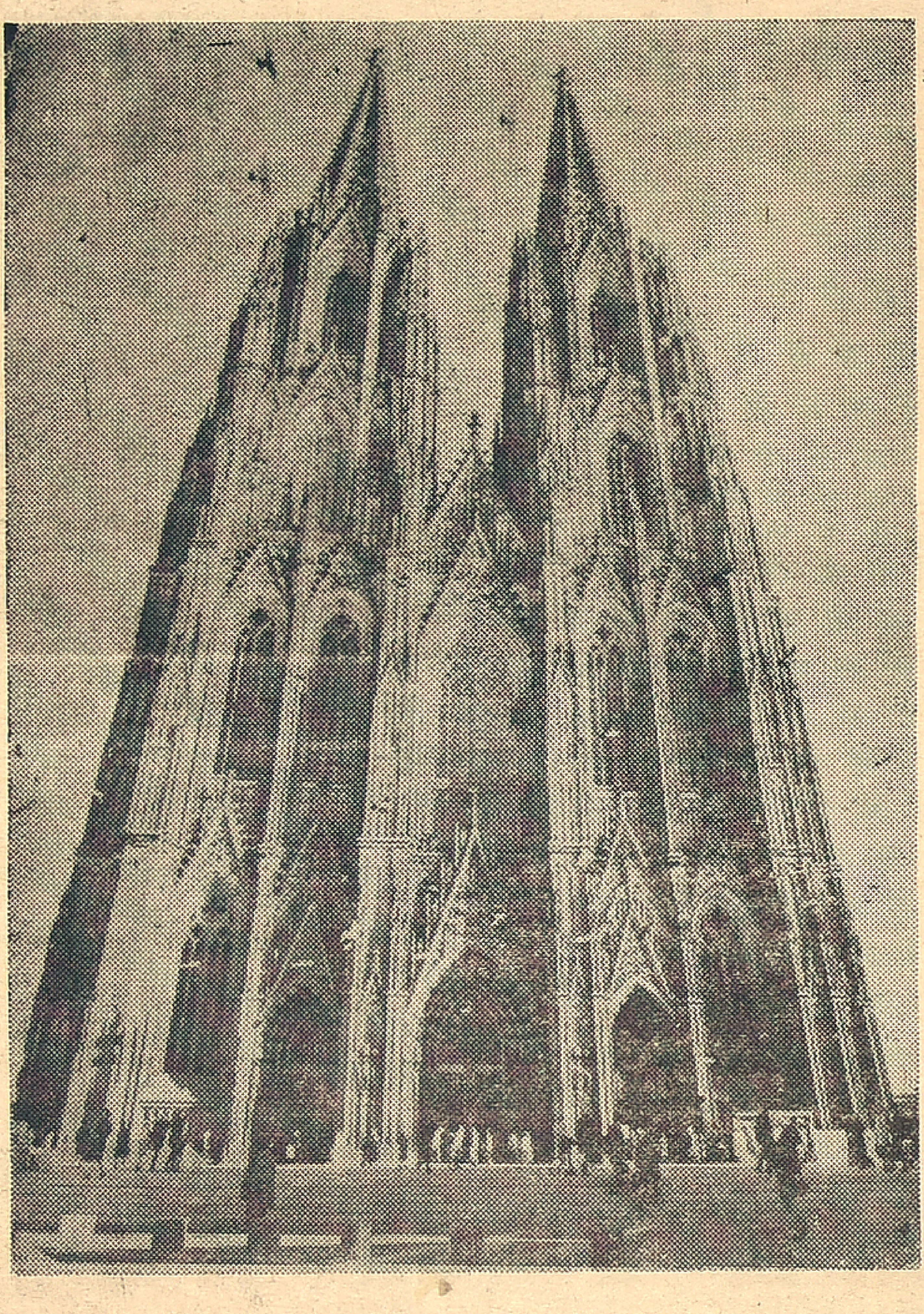


An Indoor swimming pool in Sverdlovsk



The high-altitude Medeo skating rink in Kazakhstan

The yacht club in Elektrenai (Lithuania)



"Cologne Cathedral will never be completed", nineteenth-century satirist Heinrich Heine prophesied. Work began in 1928 and the finishing touches were finally considered to have been put to this major work of German architecture towards the end of last century.

Over the centuries 47 different kinds of masonry were used, but the sandstone chosen for the "finishing touches" has since proved to be the most pollution-prone of all. Sandstone buttresses must quickly be replaced by basalt and the Education Ministry of North Rhine Westphalia plans to restore the aisles and chancel in twenty years rather than the 87 originally envisaged. Otherwise exhaust fumes and other atmospheric pollution seem likely to sound the death knell of what is probably the best-known building in the Federal Requblic of Germany. (DaD)

Reinhard Mey and his guitar have to be heard. He tells his story in simple language to the accompaniment of an easily followed melody, yet his chansons are anything but run-of-the-mill. Mey, born in Berlin in 1942, made a name for himself in Paris, winning the 1968 grand prix de la chanson, before gaining popularity in the Federal Republic of Germany. He has penned lyrics for Juliette Greco, Gilbert Becaud, Francoiss Hardy and Udo Jurgens, sold nearly a million LPs and starred in TV shows watched by millions The French, it is said, have included some of his songs in their German text-books where they are printed side by side with Goethe and Heinrich Hein. (DaD)

Printed and published for the Free India Private Ltd., by G. Rangarajan at the Free India Press, 77, General Patters Road, Mount Road, Madras-600002. Editor D. Krishnamurthy.